

EP 0 475 147 A1: **Packaging material blank**

The present invention relates to a sleeve-like packaging material blank (1) for packaging a plurality of receptacles, for example cans, bottles (31) or the like. The packaging material blank (1) comprises a top part (2), side walls connected to the top part and bottom parts (4, 4') that abut the side walls (3, 3') and can be connected in the folded state, an additional retaining element for the receptacles being provided at the respective side region of the blank. To solve the object of further developing the blank such that it can be produced and folded in the simplest manner possible and enables extremely compact packaging, while at the same time offering increased safety against tearing, it is proposed according to the invention that bendable upper, lateral and lower side flaps (5-9 and 5'-9') are provided as the retaining elements, the flaps being connected, at least partially, to one another or among one another after folding, that furthermore mutually adjacent side flaps (for example 5 and 7) are connected via a folding surface (12), which connects adjacent side flaps (for example 5 and 7) to one another in the folded state and is folded in. As a result, in the folded state of the blank (1) the side flaps fit tightly around the outside contour of the receptacles.